(54) **METHODS, SYSTEMS, AND APPARATUSES FOR MANAGING A HARD DRIVE SECURITY SYSTEM**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods, systems, and apparatuses for a self-encrypting drive (SED) management system configured to be loaded in a pre-boot region of an SED-based computer, the SED of the SED-based computer having a nominal space, which may be encrypted when the SED-based computer is shut down, and the pre-boot region. The SED management system comprises a pre-boot operating system (OS); at least one pre-boot library configured to support the pre-boot OS; and an unlocking software program configured to work with the pre-boot OS to transfer control directly to an operating system of the nominal space upon a successful authentication. Other embodiments are described and claimed.

Server Block Diagram

Centralized Management **610**